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European Coordinated Research on Long-term Challenges
in Information and Communication Sciences and Technologies ERA-Net

on

« From Data to New Knowledge »

and

« Green ICT, towards Zero Power ICT »

Opening of the call: October 2011

CHIST-ERA is a coordination and co-operation activity of national (and regional) research funding organisations in Europe and is supported by the European Union under the ERA-Net funding scheme of the FP7.

The aim is to reinforce the transnational collaboration between Member States in challenging multidisciplinary research in the area of ICST with the potential to lead to significant breakthroughs.

The partner organisations identify emergent scientific fields allowing European researchers to engage in high risk, high impact projects that will bring some advance in science by launching each year a transnational call for research proposals.

CHIST-ERA Call Information

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AIMS AND SCOPE OF THE CALL

The CHIST-ERA initiative is looking for highly innovative and multidisciplinary collaborative projects in ICST. Especially CHIST-ERA is open to new ideas and original solutions, involving interdisciplinary skills. In addition, the transformative research done in CHIST-ERA shall explore new topics with potential for significant scientific and technical impacts.

In this call, two new and hot topics are addressed, namely:

1. From data to New Knowledge
2. Green ICT, towards Zero Power ICT

Importante note: *not all the countries participate in each topic!*

2. Green ICT, towards Zero Power ICT

Participating countries: Fr, UK, Es, De, At, Pl, CH, Tr, Ro, Lu

The decrease of energy consumption for computation or communication is an important challenge for future. In addition this renders possible the design of autonomous systems scavenging their own energy from their environment.

A broad range of solutions are currently envisaged from component to system of systems levels, where research is needed in various areas.

Project proposals should address the issue of energy consumption in computation, information, sensing or communication systems from a global system perspective. Highly innovative approaches are expected at any of the system layers, from the nano-scale level to the architectural, software or protocol layers...

Official Call Announcement: www.chistera.eu

Eligibility Criteria & Recommendations

There are two levels of eligibility. The “national eligibility” of each partner within the consortium depends on the rules imposed by each funding organisation. The “general eligibility” of the consortium is based on the requirements on the consortia.

Consortia proposing a collaborative project must fulfil the following criteria:

- a) Each consortium submitting a proposal must involve a minimum of three partners from at least three countries participating in the call topic. One partner acts as the coordinator and is the single point of contact for the CHIST-ERA Call Secretariat.
- b) Research should be focussed on a clearly defined goal, i.e., the formation of consortia with typically not more than 6 partners is recommended.
- c) Research groups from countries whose National Funding Organisations do not participate in the call may be part of a consortium if they are able to secure their own funding. However, the coordinator must always be based in a country participating in the call. Participation of those partners is limited to two partners and these partners do not count for the “minimum of three” rule (criterion a).
- d) To encourage balanced projects, not more than 60% of the total funding should be requested by partners from one country.
- e) The expected size of the project volume in terms of total funding is about a maximum of 1 to 2 million €.
- f) The projects should typically last between 2 and 3 years.

Note that criteria a), c) and d) are strict eligibility criteria.

Selection of the Projects

Proposals will be assessed by an evaluation panel composed of international experts, assisted by remote reviewers. The proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Is the project within the scope of the call?
- S/T quality
- Implementation
- Impact

An Evaluation Panel will compile a ranking list of the proposals. Based on this list, the CHIST-ERA Call Steering Committee will propose projects to be funded to the National Funding Organisations. Applicants will be informed about the result of the evaluation (April 2012). The final funding decision remains with the National Funding Organisation (September 2012).

Submission of Proposals

For this call a one-step submission procedure will be employed. Applicants compile a single full proposal according to the templates available from the CHIST-ERA website, www.chistera.eu, and submit via the electronic submission system (ESS).

For projects selected for funding each partner of the consortium will be funded separately by the respective National Funding Organisation. Therefore all national regulations apply. Eligibility regulations for each National Funding Organisation are given in the appendix.

Additionally, each Principal Investigator, not just the coordinator, has to contact the National Contact Point sufficiently prior to submission regarding eligibility issues.

1. From Data to New Knowledge

Participating countries: Fr, UK, Es, At, Ie, Pl, Tr, Ro, Lu

The challenge is to produce new computational concepts, models, tools and methodologies to automatically and reliably extract new knowledge from large amounts of heterogeneous, unstructured data. Typical data include multilingual and multimedia data such as found on the web (text, speech, image, video, ...) and data generated by human organisations in the course of scientific, industrial or service activities (medical data, 3D object representations, advanced manufacturing data, ...). Though much activities are already going on in the field, existing systems are far from offering a highly reliable extraction of knowledge from any type of data, and basic research is still needed to explore new concepts and models for challenging tasks such as machine reading, processing of noisy data, multiscale model handling...